

Chafi Bakari
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Chafi Bakari participated in African Human Rights Day on October 21, 2006.

The day, which has become an annual event, was declared by the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) during its fifth ordinary session in Benghazi, Libya in April 1989 and endorsed by African Heads of States assembly of then OAU.

However, since 1989, many people were more familiar with International Human Rights Day, traditionally held on December 10th every year. So Chafi and a colleague, both in charge of human rights promotion in Africa, decided to change things. Starting in Gambia, they decided, along with other colleagues, to raise awareness for African Human Rights Day through a one mile long march.

Despite getting approval only a week prior to the event, the group arranged interviews with radio stations and TV, printed t-shirts, caps and banners, and contacted prominent NGOs partners based in Gambia to take part in the march.

The slogan they chose this year, which is printed in the back of every t-shirt, is: REALIZING THE CULTURE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN AFRICA.

"For an event organized for the first time in Africa on a shoe string budget and in just one week; I am proud to tell you that it was a success. We are planning an African wide event for next year, just wait and see." Chafi Bakari, pictured on the right.